



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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June 27, 2006

The Honorable Christine Gregoire
Governor, State of Washington
PO Box 40002
Olympia WA 98504-0002

Subject: Performance Report 2006 (June 1, 2005-May 31, 2006)
Public Access to Campaign and Lobbyist Filings (RCW 42.17.463)

Dear Governor Gregoire:

Enclosed is the Public Disclosure Commission's (PDC) annual report showing our agency's performance in public access to campaign and lobbying reports. Please note that the statutory goal provided in RCW 42.17.463 is to make electronically filed reports available within two business days in the PDC's office and Web site. Reports submitted by paper (filed by US Mail or hand delivery) are required to be available within four business days.

In summary, during fiscal year 2006, the PDC continued to exceed the statutory requirements for access to reported information in the following manner:

- campaign and lobbying reports that were electronically filed were posted by the PDC within fifteen minutes of being electronically filed; and
- campaign and lobbying reports that were submitted on paper (filed by US Mail or hand delivery) were available on the same day received in the agency's office and Web site.

Regardless of the filing method, all reports were immediately available for public copying and review upon receipt in the office.

The enclosed charts illustrate the public's timely access to reports and the improved accessibility over the years. For five years running, the PDC has essentially provided immediate access to the very latest political finance information. In 2000, the average number of days for e-filed reports to reach the Internet was 4 days, and paper filings were, on average, accessible within 5 to 15 days.

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One factor impacting the immediate accessibility of campaign finance reports is that the number of electronically filing candidates and political committees continues to increase. In June 2000, 46 persons filed their PDC reports electronically. Two years later, that number had risen to 370. By May 2006, the agency served 1,954 electronic filers including 345 candidates, 369 political committees, 811 personal financial affairs filers, 311 lobbyists and 138 lobbyist employers.

Regarding the percentage of candidates who were filing electronically in the 2005 elections, of the three candidates seeking legislative office, two of them (66%) filed their disclosure reports electronically. Of the local candidates running in the 2005 election, 53% filed their disclosure reports electronically. By contrast, during the 2003 election, only 10% of the 1,776 candidates running for local office e-filed. Of the 627 active political committees in the 2005 election, 58% filed electronically, whereas in 2004 election, of the 787 active PACS, 41% filed electronically.

The PDC is attempting to attract additional electronic filers by providing one-on-one assistance to those needing personalized attention and by offering periodic night and weekend training in Eastern and Western Washington. Altogether, we conducted 34 electronic filing training sessions during FY 06, an increase of two classes from the previous fiscal year. To further assist filers, in February of 2006, the PDC information technology staff released the newly developed ORCA software (Online Reporting of Campaign Activity), which is considered to be an easier system to use than its predecessor and less expensive to maintain. Future PDC projects include launching an on-line Web application to disclose expenses related to electioneering communications and independent expenditures.

Sincerely,

Vicki Rippie

Vicki Rippie
Executive Director

cc: Members, House State Government Operations & Accountability Committee
Members, Senate Government Operations & Elections Committee

Attachment

Performance Report 2006

Public Access to Campaign and Lobbyist Filings

in compliance with RCW 42.17.463

June 2006

Electronic Filers vs. Paper Filers

June 1, 2005 – May 31, 2006

	Number of Filers	Percent that File Electronically	Percent that file on Paper
Statewide candidates	0	0%	0%
Legislative candidates	3	66%	34%
Local/Judicial candidates	3,126	53% ¹	47%
Continuing Political Committees	627	58%	42%
Lobbyists	947	32%	68%
Lobbyist Employers	1,034	13%	87%

¹ Percentage reflects candidates the using "Full Reporting" option. Small campaigns spending \$3,500 or less were not included in determining the percentage.

Performance Measures Summary—Campaign Finance

RCW 42.17.463(1) & (2)

June 1, 2005 – May 31, 2006---Average No. of Days from Receipt to Internet

Electronic Filers

Reports are available on the Internet within minutes of filing.

Paper Filers

Images of candidate and political committee reports were available the same day as received in the Public Disclosure Commission office, typically within 2 hours or less.

Performance Measures Summary—Lobbying

RCW 42.17.463(3)

June 1, 2005 – May 31, 2006---Average No. of Days from Receipt to Internet

Electronic Filers

Reports are available on the Internet within minutes of filing.

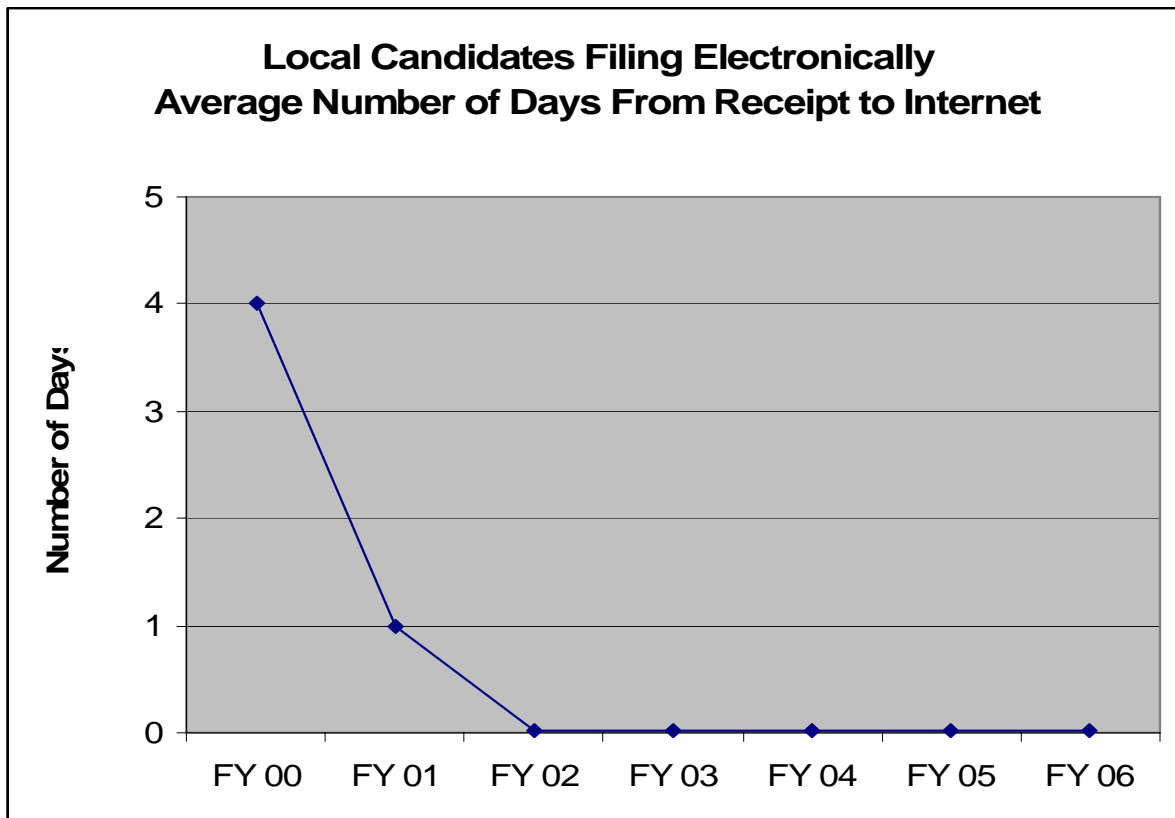
Paper Filers

Images of lobbying reports were available the same day as received in the Public Disclosure Commission office, typically within 2 hours or less.

Campaign Finance – Average Number of Days from Receipt to Internet

Electronic Filers

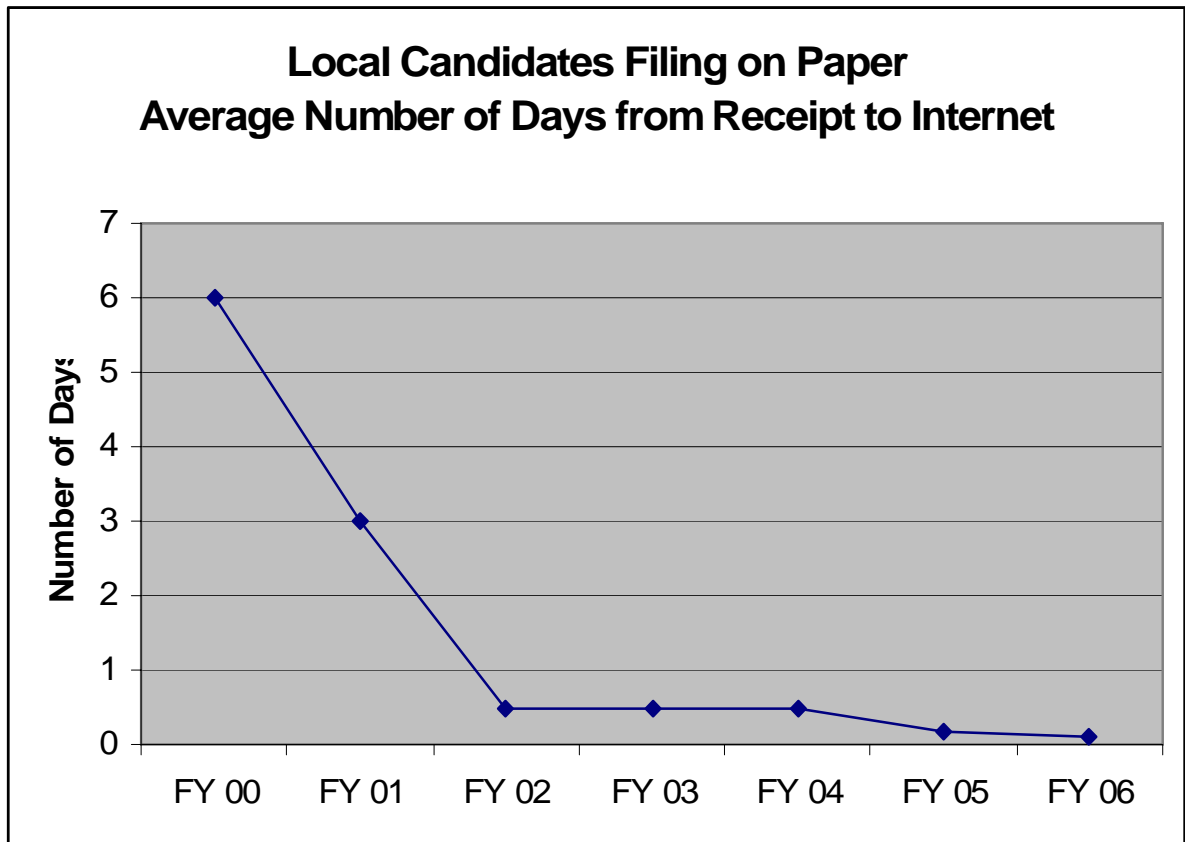
	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
State Executive Candidates	4	1.5	.03	.03	.03	.03	.03
Legislative Candidates	4	1.7	.03	.03	.03	.03	.03
Continuing Political Committees	4	1.5	.03	.03	.03	.03	.03
Local/Judicial Candidates	4	1	.03	.03	.03	.03	.03



Campaign Finance – Average Number of Days from Receipt to Internet

Paper Filers

	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
State Executive Candidates	5	2	.5	.5	.5	.20	.11
Legislative Candidates	5	2	.5	.5	.5	.16	.06
Local/Judicial Candidates	6	3	.5	.5	.5	.16	.12
Continuing Political Committees	15	3.5	.5	.5	.5	.18	.06
Statewide Initiative PACs	9	2	.5	.5	.5	.20	.13
Independent Campaign Expenditures (C6)	7	1	.5	.5	.5	.16	.07



Lobbying – Average Number of Days from Receipt to Internet

Electronic Filers

Please note that electronic filing for lobbyists and lobbyist employers was not available until January 1, 2002. Reports filed electronically by lobbyists and lobbyist employers are now accessible and on the Internet within an hour of filing.

Paper Filers

	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
Lobbyist Registration (L1)	6	3	.5	.5	.5	.11	.09
Lobbyist Expenditures (L2)	14	6	.5	.5	.5	.11	.09
Employer Expenditures (L3)	6	3	.5	.5	.5	.11	.09
Special Contributions (L3c)	8	5	.5	.5	.5	.11	.09

